A Wild Father's Day

Meriam Bates

Reviewer: Meriam Bates
Reading Level: Toddler, Preschool, Primary
Rating: Excellent
Genre: Picture books; Fiction;
Subject: Father's Day--Juvenile fiction; Animals--Juvenile fiction; Books--Reviews;

Early one Father's Day, two children give their dad a card that says, “Have a WILD Father's Day.” They decide that the best way to have a wild Father's Day is to act like animals, so they spend the rest of the day playing, exercising, and eating like animals. They hop like kangaroos, stretch like cats, run like cheetahs, swing like monkeys, swim like dolphins, eat like elephants, and sleep like puppies. At the end of the day, the father tucks the children in and tells them, “I love you like only a daddy can.”

Though the text is rather thin, the playful colored pencil and watercolor illustrations make up for it by creatively depicting the group, both as people and as animals. The bright colors and sparse text make this an excellent book for very young children. As well as following along with the pictures, young children and their parents may also enjoy joining in the fun and pretending to be animals for a day too.

Volume 30, no. 2 (November/December 2009)